GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

EFS&T Department - Diversion of 18.86 Ha (i.e. 11.49 Ha in Madinapadu RF & 7.37 Ha in Janapadu RF) of forest land for laying 765 KV D/C Warangal – Chilakaluripeta Transmission Line to be implemented by Warora - Kurnool Transmission Line (WKTL) – Final (Stage-II) approval accorded.

ENVIRONEMNT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (Section-II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No.63 **Dated.19.09.2022**

Read the following:-

1) From PCCF & HoFF, A.P., Guntur, Lr.Rc.No.9605/2017/FCA-3, dt.18.08.2018.
2) State Govt Lr.No.EFS01-12021/118/Section-II/2018, dt.15.10.2018.
3) From GoI, MoEF&CC, Lr.No.4-APC084/2018-CHN/1856, dt.28.11.2018.
4) From the PCCF&HoFF, A.P., Lr.Rc.No.9605/2017/FCA-3, dt:09.01.2022.
5) State Govt.Lr.No.4335/Sec.II/2018, EFS&T(Sec.II) Dept., dt.29.04.2022.
6) From the GoI, MoEF&CC, IRO, Vijayawada, Lr.F.No.4-APC084/2018-CHN/543, dt.22.08.2022.

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ORDER:

In the letter first read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, has submitted a proposal under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of 18.86 Ha (i.e. 11.49 Ha in Madinapadu RF & 7.37 Ha in Janapadu RF) of forest land for laying 765 KV D/C Warangal – Chilakaluripeta Transmission Line to be implemented by Warora - Kurnool Transmission Line (WKTL) and requested to consider the proposal and issue orders under general approval category.

2. In the letter 2nd read above, the proposal of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, was sent to Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional Office, Chennai, for its approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

3. In the letter 3rd read above, the Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional Office, Chennai, have accorded in-principle (Stage-I) approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for the proposal, subject to compliance of certain conditions stipulated therein.

4. In the letter 4th read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, has furnished the compliance report on the Stage-I conditions and requested to consider the same and forward to Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada, Vijayawada for according Final(stage-II) approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Accordingly, State Government forwarded the compliance report to the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada, Vijayawada and requested to accord Final(Stage-II) approval for the proposal vide letter in the 5th read above.

5. In the letter 6th read above, the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada, have accorded (Stage-II) approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of 18.86 Ha (i.e. 11.49 Ha in Madinapadu RF & 7.37 Ha in Janapadu RF) of forest land for laying 765 KV D/C Warangal – Chilakaluripeta Transmission Line to be implemented by Warora - Kurnool Transmission Line (WKTL), subject to certain conditions stipulated therein.

6. After careful examination of the proposal, the Government hereby accord permission to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, for diversion of 18.86 Ha (i.e. 11.49 Ha in Madinapadu RF & 7.37 Ha in Janapadu RF) of forest land for laying 765 KV D/C Warangal – Chilakaluripeta Transmission Line to be implemented by Warora - Kurnool Transmission Line (WKTL), subject to the following conditions:-

i. Legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged;

ii. Demarcation of the proposed forest area shall be carried out by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 meters by the User Agency in consultation with the DFO concerned at the project cost before execution of the project;

iii. The State Forest Department shall carryout Compensatory Afforestation (CA) over **40.26 ha** of degraded forest land in Compt No.26 of Koppukonda RF of Vinukonda Range in Guntur Division as per the revised CA Scheme from the amount which has already been realized from the User Agency;

iv. The PCCF & HoFF, Andhra Pradesh shall ensure that the approved CA scheme is implemented in its entirety and the CA plantations are maintained for 10 years as per the approved CA scheme; suitable instructions may be issued to the field officers in this regard and, if need be, the FSR may be suitably modified to facilitate this;

v. The State Forest Department shall raise and maintain dwarf species (preferably medicinal plants) under the transmission lines from the amount which has already been realized from the User Agency;

vi. Additional amount of Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted forest land if any, becoming due after revision of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in future, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency

vii. The maximum width of right of way for the proposed transmission line on the forest land shall not be more than 67 mtrs;

viii. The forest land proposed for diversion shall under no circumstances be transferred / sublet to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;

ix. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government;

x. The User Agency shall provide fire wood, preferably alternate fuel to labourers working at the site to avoid damage/pressure on adjacent forest areas;

xi. Disturbance shall be kept minimal by creating labour camps outside the forest area as far as possible and it will be the responsibility of the User Agency to ensure that the labourers & staff engaged in execution of work do not destruct nearby forest flora & fauna;

xii. The enumerated trees in the 67 meter width strip (right of way) would have to be felled but after stringing work is completed, natural regeneration shall be allowed to come up. Felling / pollarding / pruning of trees shall be done with the permission of the local forest officer wherever necessary for the maintenance of the transmission lines;

xiii. In case the portion of the transmission line to be constructed is located in hilly areas, where adequate clearance is already available, trees shall not be cut;

xiv. The User Agency at its cost shall provide bird deflectors, which are to be fixed on the upper conductor of the transmission line at suitable intervals to avoid bird hits;

xv. During construction of transmission line, pollarding / pruning of trees located outside the above width of the strip, whose branches / parts infringe with conductor stringing, shall be carried out to the extent necessary, as may be decided by the local forest officer;

xvi. All efforts shall be taken to minimize the felling of trees and the State Forest Department shall carry out translocation of the trees wherever feasible at the cost of the User Agency. Felling shall be kept the barest minimum

required and shall be carried out under the supervision of the DFO, Concerned;

xvii. The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to Ministry's guidelines F.No 7-25/2012-FC dated 5th May, 2014 and 19th September, 2014 and provisions of all Acts, Rules, Regulation and Guidelines of the Ministry, for the time being in force, as applicable to the transmission line projects;

xviii. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed **18.86 ha** and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal;

xix. The Progress of the Compensatory Afforestation under the jurisdiction of Guntur Forest Division shall be monitored by the respective Circle Head and a copy of such monitoring report shall be forwarded to the Regional Office;

xx. Any other conditions that the Central Government or Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation, conservation and management of flora and fauna in the area, shall be complied by the User Agency;

xxi. In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the user agency is liable for penal action as per the provisions in Ministry's guidelines.

7. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, shall take further necessary action in the matter accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)
NEERABH KUMAR PRASAD
SPCIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force,
Andhra Pradesh, Guntur.

Copy to:
The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central)
Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests,
Regional Office, 1st and 2nd Floors,
Handloom Export promotion Council Building
34, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai – 600034.

The Inspector General of Forests (Central)
Government of India,
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada,
Green House Complex, Gopal Reddy Road,
Vijayawada-520010

The Authorized Signatory,M/s Warora Kurnool Transmission Limited, 6th Floor, Plot No.19&20, Film City, Sector 16 A, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, U.P. – 201 301

SF/SC

// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER